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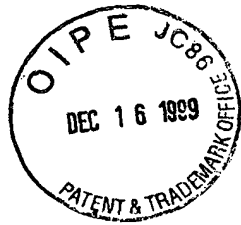
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Ari HINKKANEN

Serial No. 09/015,399

Filed: 29 January 1998



Examiner: M. Lubet

Group Art Unit: 1644

For: A NEW FUSION PROTEIN AND
ITS USE IN AN IMMUNOASSAY
FOR THE SIMULTANEOUS
DETECTION OF AUTOANTIBODIES
RELATED TO INSULIN-DEPENDENT
DIABETES MELLITUS

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed 4 August 1999, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace page ~~37~~ (the Abstract) with the newly submitted page 37.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 11-16.

Please amend the following claims:

Sub E'
C1

--1 (amended). A fusion protein having epitopes of at least two [of the] autoantigens wherein one of said autoantigens is preproinsulin (PPINS) and a second of said autoantigens is selected from the group consisting of glutamic acid decarboxylase (GAD65)[,] and islet cell antigen (IA2) [and preproinsulin (PPINS)], wherein said epitopes are connected with a linker peptide, said fusion protein being able to bind to a solid phase.--

--3 (amended). The fusion protein according to claim 2 wherein

C2

- the epitope of IA2 comprises the amino acids 771-979 of [the amino acid sequence shown in Figure 2a] SEQ ID NO:5,